

Calling all gardeners...

Sowing seeds of hope for springtime....

President's Message

Now that we are entering the month of February, with the holidays behind us, we can turn our thoughts towards the pending springtime, which it must be said, cannot come soon enough.

What we can do now is start planning our gardens, and to assist you, we will be having our annual seed exchange at our February 1st meeting. The protocol is simple, you bring in a pack of seeds, preferably those that you harvested from your own garden, and you can pick up a pack of seeds. Seed bags are not big, no bigger than seed bags from the store, or they can be as large as a sandwich bag, if that's all you have available. We will have seed description slips at the meeting for your use: just bring in your seeds, fill out the slip, and stick it in the bag. We would encourage you to bring a friend or two to this meeting; we are allowing free admission to our guests in February, so please make an effort to bring someone along: they may leave with a pack of interesting seeds. And of course, after the seed exchange, any leftover packs will be on sale for a nominal fee. So if you don't bring any seeds yourself, then bring a pocketful of change. We will also be having a book exchange at this meeting: so if you have any gardening books or magazines you wish to share, please bring them along as well.

Thank you all for attending our last meeting at the Royalton Retirement Home. We had a pretty good turnout of our members, but sadly we had only one member from the Residence itself. The presentation on horticulture in the Netherlands was both very entertaining and educational, and I'm sure that more of the Royalton residents would have enjoyed it if they had attended. All this to say that we are undaunted by the low turnout of the seniors, and that we are planning a future meeting at another retirement residence. It's all in the advertising, folks. So stay tuned, and we'll let you know if and when we try another residence.

Your executive council is also planning the annual plant sale, which this year will take place in the parking lot at All Saints High School in Kanata on May 21st. By this time the seeds that you purchased in February (see above) will now be large and lush and lovely enough to bring to our plant sale, right? Seriously, though, because we won't have the usual crop of tomato plants that we have had in the past, we need other members to step up and contribute plants to make our sale a success. So please keep that in mind.

See you all at the next meeting. Don't forget your seeds and your gardening books.

Gerald Bouchard, President



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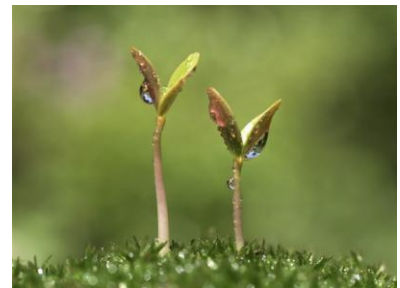
KMHS Announcements

Peterborough Garden Show

Seed & Garden Book Exchange

Seed and Gardening Book Exchange

Tuesday, February 1st, 7:30 pm
Old Town Hall, March Road
Kanata



Master Gardener Fran Dennett will discuss seed propagation and answer your questions on other gardening topics.

We will also hold our annual seed exchange and something new, a garden book exchange. See page 2 for more information.

Members are encouraged to "bring a friend" free of charge this month.

Program Co-ordinator Needed!

We are in need of a volunteer to step up to the critical position of Program Co-ordinator. Our programs are planned a year in advance, so the new co-ordinator would be responsible for arranging for speakers for the 2012 program.

If you are interested, please see Gerald Bouchard, President or if you have questions, past program co-ordinator Elizabeth Stokely would be happy to answer them.

Peterborough Garden Show

“The biggest and best local garden show in Ontario, Canada”

KMHS is organizing a bus trip to the Peterborough Garden Show, on Saturday, April 9th if there is enough interest in attending among our members. We will inquire at the February meeting to see if there is sufficient interest to charter a bus to take people to this show. For more information about the garden show visit their website at:

<http://www.peterboroughgardens.ca/Showhome.html>



KMHS Announcements

Membership Renewal

Membership fees are due if you have not yet renewed your membership for 2011 - \$15.00 for individuals or \$25.00 for a family.

The membership form is on our website at <http://www.kanata-horticultural.com/Join%20Us.htm> and can be mailed in or brought to the next meeting.

OHA District 2 Photo Competition

The District 2 competition will take place at the 2011 District 2 Annual General Meeting. Details concerning format and categories can be found at:

<http://www.gardenontario.org/site.php/district2>

Send your entries to:

Owen Munn
9 Thorncliff Place, Nepean, ON
K2H 6L4 Phone 613-262-1566
Entry deadline is March 31st 2011

The seed is hope; the flower is joy.

- Author Unknown

Seed and Garden Book Exchange

How the seed exchange works:

Members bring in packages of seeds that they have prepared to trade, and label them with the names, characteristics etc (a template you can use will be available at the meeting). The seeds can be contained in envelopes or small ziploc bags. For each package of seeds you bring in, you can take a package of seeds that someone else has brought in to swap. Those who do not bring in seeds to exchange can buy any of the leftover packages toward the end of the evening for 25 cents each.

How the gardening book exchange works:

Much the same as the seed exchange, bring in your gardening books or magazines that you no longer use and swap them for others. In the case of magazines, **please do not bring any more than six (6) magazines!** Those that are leftover after the exchange is complete can be purchased at 50 cents a magazine or \$1 per book. If there are any unclaimed books or magazines at the end of the meeting people can either take their contributions home or donate them to KMHS to be used as sale items at the plant sale in May.

Be sure to check out our “Help to” section on the KMHS website for helpful resource material that will assist you with your seed propagation:

<http://www.kanata-horticultural.com/Help%20to.htm>



Valentine's Day often means the gift of roses. While cut roses may have to suffice in winter months, a rose bush planted in season can be a wonderful gift that keeps on giving. Here is a list of the top ten hardy roses sold at Galetta Nurseries last year to keep in mind when planning your garden for 2011:

Morden Blush: Blush pink, from Manitoba. It looks delicate, but isn't. Always one of the favourites.

Polareis: A rugosa hybrid. Gorgeous white/green/pink flowers.

Emily Carr: A new rose from the Canadian Artists series. Glowing dark red.

Ramblin' Red: Dark red climbing rose, also a new introduction. Very vigorous.

John Davis: A hardy Canadian Explorer climbing rose, and always in the top ten.

Hope for Humanity: Blood-red flowers on a Manitoba rose.

Hentry Kelsey: Another popular red climbing rose, from the Canadian Explorer series. Very vigorous.

Morden Belle: The last rose released in the Morden series from Manitoba. Gorgeous deep pink.

Hansa: An older rugosa hybrid rose, from 1905. Purple, with a strong clove fragrance.

J.P. Connell: A pale yellow rose, considered the first in the Explorer series. One of the few hardy yellow roses.

All of these roses, and 70 other varieties, will be available this year at Galetta Rose Nurseries, 3196 Galetta Rd. , RR#1 Arnprior.



KMHS Membership has its privileges....

Did you know that as members of KMHS you are entitled to a 10% discount at Richmond Nursery? KMHS members will receive this discount upon presentation of your KMHS membership card when making a purchase at the nursery.

Richmond Nursery is located at 3440 Eagleson Road (corner of Eagleson Road and Richmond Road in Richmond). Visit their website at:

<http://www.richmondnursery.com>

If you have not renewed your KMHS membership for 2011 or are considering joining us, please do so at your earliest convenience to take advantage of this and other benefits.

Kanata-March Horticultural Society

Box 24072, 300 Eagleson Road,
Kanata, Ontario, K2M 2C3
Kanata-March Horticultural Society

kanatamhs@yahoo.ca

Gardening for the future...

Find us on the Web:

www.kanata-horticultural.com



About KMHS....

In existence for over forty years, our horticultural society aims to serve the Kanata-March community through horticultural education, local public garden maintenance, opportunities for young gardeners to earn volunteer hours and various special events. In late May we hold a Plant Sale where many excellent bargains are available to add new dimensions to Kanata and area gardens. We hold monthly meetings in the Old Town Hall, Kanata where guest speakers including local gardening experts share their knowledge.

We are one of the twenty plus societies that make up District 2 of the Ontario Horticultural Association and, through this affiliation, we are grateful to receive grants from OMAFRA and the City of Ottawa. These grants are used for public garden maintenance.

Our newsletter

The monthly newsletter is online at the end of each month, with members being informed of this by e-mail. If you see an article or website that you think would be of interest to others, please let me know by the third Friday of the month.

Shelley Sissing, the.sissings@sympatico.ca

Upcoming gardening events:

Here are some advance notices for future events that may be of interest to you:

March 15 – 20th: Prepare for spring by experiencing the 15th anniversary of the “**Canada Blooms: The Flower & Garden Festival**” at the Direct Energy Centre in Toronto www.canadablooms.com/

April 8-10th: **Peterborough Garden Show**, Evinrude Centre, Peterborough <http://www.peterboroughgardens.ca>

May 21st – **KMHS Annual Plant Sale** including rainbarrels from www.rainbarrel.ca, All Saints H.S., Kanata

June 25 & 26th: **The OBGS “Over the Hedge Garden Tour and Car Rally”** will showcase amazing country gardens west of Ottawa. More information to follow at <http://www.ottawagarden.ca>

September 10th – **OHA District 2 Summer Flower Show** will be held in Smiths Falls during the Smiths Falls “Pickle Fest” <http://www.sfpicklefest.ca>

